

REMARKS


Claims 16 through 46 are pending in the application. Claims 1 through 15 are canceled.

The present application was originally prepared in German and then translated into English. Applicants amended the specification to clarify terms and concepts that did not translate clearly. Applicants amended the abstract to conform to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office standards.

The original claims, namely claims 1 through 15, were prepared in accordance with German practice. Applicants canceled claims 1 through 15, and added claims 16 through 46, which are structured in accordance with U.S. practice. Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment is neither narrowing nor made for substantial reasons related to patentability. Therefore, the amendment does not create prosecution history estoppel and, as such, the doctrine of equivalents is available for all of the elements of claims 16 through 46. Favorable consideration is respectfully urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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